

MAYOR MARTY SMALL, SR.

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NEWS RELEASE

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City of Atlantic City, O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Announce Free Credit Repair Program for City Residents

Atlantic City, N.J. (March 6, 2023) —City of Atlantic City Mayor Marty Small, Sr., in partnership with O.C.E.A.N., Inc., has announced a new, free credit repair workshop for Atlantic City residents. Registration is now open.

The first cohort of this eight-week program begins on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 with regular follow-ups planned upon the program's conclusion. Classes will be held in the evening at Carnegie Library. Atlantic City resident Vi Bailey, who specializes in credit repair, will lead the program. According to Bailey, participants will learn about credit scores and credit reports, debt management, how to identify and correct errors on your credit report, how to properly negotiate with creditors and how to increase your score.

"It's not how you start it's how you finish," said Mayor Small during a news conference last week announcing the program. "I encourage all city residents to take advantage of this free opportunity. There are so many people that want to build a business or get a mortgage but can't get a loan because of credit. O.C.E.A.N., Inc. has been a great partner for many of our ventures and I'm glad we get to collaborate with them on this program."

"Good people with bad credit, that's what we see with a lot of the people we serve," said O.C.E.A.N., Inc. CEO Channelle Wilkins. "Giving them the opportunity to alleviate that bad credit will give them a lot more opportunities. We want to give residents the chance to be homeowners and key stakeholders in the city. We're excited to partner with Mayor Small and the city."

"As someone who understands how challenging and confusing the credit repair process can be, I am very excited to bring this program to Atlantic City," said Bailey. "The curriculum will be simple and easy to follow. I am confident this program will be an invaluable resource to anybody looking to better their financial position and overall achieve their financial goals.

Seating is limited. Sign up for the program and learn more about the curriculum through this link: https://form.jotform.com/230645605018047.

Other educational programs Mayor Small has brought to the City of Atlantic City in recent years include the Small Business Academy, Investment Cohort and the Ernest Trans School of Trucking.

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